Mass Transit Company (UMTC) which has been set up to implement the project. Government of India has been released Rs. 7 crores towards equity of UMTC.

No proposal seeking external grant has yet been received from Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Tax-Free Bonds for Mobilising Resources

912. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that this Ministry is seeking higher allocations of tax-free bonds for mobilising resources to meet the target of constructing two million houses annually;

(b) if so, who would be beneficiaries of these two million houses and has any time frame been drawn for the purpose; and

(c) whether his Ministry is also keeping any reservation for these houses for the economically weaker sections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The National Agenda of Governance envisages a target of two million houses per year. Out of which, 7 lakh houses are to be constructed in urban areas. An action plan and State-wise breakup of the target have been prepared. Necessary action is being taken by HUDCO and other financial institutions to provide finance to achieve the target. Special care will be taken for the EWS and LIG sections of the population, who will be amongst the main beneficiaries.

Introduction of Innovative Construction Material

913. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that HUDCO has introduced housing materials which are eco-friendly, energy efficient and cost-effective; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps Government propose to popularise the use of these innovative construction materials on a Large scale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the cost effective technologies/building material are enclosed as statement. In Order to popularise cost effective technologies/ building materials, HUDCO under this Ministry, finances and supports building material industries, particularly those using industrial and agricultural wastes.

Government is promoting cost-effective technologies by establishing building centres through HUDCO. HUDCO provides 0.25% reduction in interest rates for using the cost-effective technologies and is also providing technical assistance in terms of grant to the agencies to construct schools, public buildings etc. for demonstrating these technologies. Financial support for setting up of building material industries by way of term loans and equity contribution is also provided.

Statement

Details of Cost-effective Technologies/ Building Materials Promoted/Popularised by HUDCO

1. Clay Fly Ash Bricks
2. Stabilised Mud Fly Ash Bricks
3. Calcium Silicate Bricks
4. Autoclaved Aerated Concrete